

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 01427 01 OF 02 140322Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----003863 140328Z /65

O 140319Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0691
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01427

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MNUC, PORG, UNSC, SF
SUBJECT: WESTERN FIVE MEET APRIL 13 ON POSSIBLE UNSC
ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY
REF: STATE 092273
SUMMARY: WESTERN FIVE MET APRIL 13 TO CONTINUE
DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR ACTIVITY. MEETING CENTERED ON CONSIDERATION
OF DRAFT ELEMENTS OF A POSSIBLE SC RESOLUTION
PROPOSED BY US (REFTEL). GREATEST CONCERN OF FOUR
WAS OVER US REFERENCE TO CHAPTER SEVEN. END SUMMARY.

1. IN OPENING WESTERN FIVE DISCUSSION ON THIS
SUBJECT APRIL 13, AMBASSADOR MCHENRY REVIEWED
RECENT USSR APPROACHES TO THE US, FRANCE AND THE UK.
HE BRIEFLY RECOUNTED THE RECENT DISCUSSION BETWEEN
AMBASSADOR EASUM AND COMMISSIONER GARBA IN LAGOS ON
THE MATTER. DRAWING FROM REFTEL GUIDANCE MCHENRY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 01427 01 OF 02 140322Z

TOLD THE FOUR THAT THE US WOULD LIKE TO CONSULT WITH
THEM ON A PURELY CONTINGENCY BASIS ON POSSIBLE
ELEMENTS OF A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION, SHOULD
SC CONSIDERATION OF SUCH A RESOLUTION PROVE
UNAVOIDABLE. US THEN PASSED OUT COPIES OF ELEMENTS
GIVEN IN PARA 3 REFTEL.

2. SPEAKING AD REFERENDUM, AS DID ALL THE FOUR, FRANCE (LEPRETTE) OBJECTED TO THE CHAPTER SEVEN LANGUAGE IN ELEMENT "E" SUGGESTING THAT THE US DROP THAT DIRECT REFERENCE TO CHAPTER SEVEN. FRANCE ALSO WORRIED ABOUT CHAPTER SEVEN IMPLICATION OF ELEMENT "B" BECAUSE RESOLUTION 418 HAD BEEN DRAWN UP UNDER CHAPTER SEVEN. UK (MURRAY) SAID THAT ELEMENT "D" AS WRITTEN ALSO APPEARED TO BE CHAPTER SEVEN SINCE "PROHIBIT" SUGGESTS MANDATORY RATHER THAN RECOMMENDATORY INTENT. IF THAT WAS THE CASE WITH "D", WHY HAVE ELEMENT "E"? CANADA (BARTON), BACKED UP BY UK, SAID THAT IT MIGHT APPEAR HYPOCRITICAL FOR COUNCIL TO CENSURE SOUTH AFRICA UNDER CHAPTER SEVEN FOR NUCLEAR EXPLOSION WHEN NO SUCH ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN WITH REGARD TO, FOR EXAMPLE, INDIA. HE ALSO REMINDED GROUP THAT SEVERAL COUNCIL MEMBERS HAD NOT YET SIGNED THE NPT AND THAT ELEMENT "D" MIGHT PRESENT PROBLEMS IN THIS REGARD. THE US NOTED THAT PERHAPS THE INTENTION OF ELEMENT "D" WAS OF A CHAPTER SIX VARIETY, NOT CHAPTER SEVEN. IF THAT WAS TRUE THEN THERE WAS A MORE LOGICAL RATIONALE FOR THE RETENTION OF ELEMENT "E".

3. CANADA SUGGESTED THAT THE TERM "FULL SCOPE SAFEGUARDS" SHOULD BE USED IN BOTH ELEMENTS "C" AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 01427 01 OF 02 140322Z

"D". THE UK POINTED OUT THAT ELEMENTS "D" AND "E" COULD PROVOKE A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS PROBLEM BY CALLING ATTENTION TO ISRAELI NUCLEAR ACTIVITIES. FRG (VERGAU) AND UK SUGGESTED THAT "HYPOCRISY" PROBLEM MIGHT BE AMELIORATED IF ELEMENT "E" INCLUDED AN EXPLANATION OF WHY A NUCLEAR EXPLOSION BY SOUTH AFRICA WOULD CONSTITUTE A SPECIAL THREAT. THEY SUGGESTED SUBSTITUTION OF A PHRASE LIKE "WOULD LEAD TO FURTHER DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA" IN PLACE OF REFTEL LANGUAGE. THEY ALSO ARGUED THAT SUCH A SUBSTITUTION WOULD ENABLE THE WEST TO RETAIN CONSIDERABLY MORE FREEDOM OF ACTION THAN WOULD REFTEL LANGUAGE. THE FRG THOUGHT IN PRINCIPLE IT WAS BEST TO REFRAIN FROM CHAPTER SEVEN, BUT VERGAU DID NOT EXCLUDE FRG AGREEMENT TO CHAPTER SEVEN LANGUAGE TIED TO SOUTH AFRICAN EXPLOSION OF A NUCLEAR WEAPON. FRANCE MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT.

4. THE FIVE WERE AGREED IN ANY CASE THAT POSTPONEMENT OF SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON THIS SUBJECT WAS DESIRABLE UNLESS FUTURE EVENTS SUGGESTED THAT SUCH A SESSION COULD HELP AND NOT HINDER

WESTERN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS REGARDING SOUTH AFRICAN
NUCLEAR ACTIVITY. IN RESPONSE TO A US SUGGESTION
THAT THE US PROVIDE A NUCLEAR EXPERT TO BRIEF
PERMREP HARRIMAN AND PERHAPS OTHER KEY AFRICANS
IN NEW YORK, THE FOUR AGREED THAT SUCH AN INITIATIVE
MIGHT BE USEFUL AND THEY CAUTIONED US THAT LOBBYING
BE BROADENED BEYOND JUST NIGERIANS. (COMMENT: IN A
SEPARATE DISCUSSION LATER THAT DAY, NIGERIA MISOFF
(FISHER) SUGGESTED THAT, IN ADDITION TO VISIT BY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 01427 02 OF 02 140323Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----003880 140331Z /62

O 140319Z APR 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0692
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01427

EXDIS

NUCLEAR EXPERT, US WOULD DO WELL TO PREPARE SHORT,
READABLE, WRITTEN EXPOSITION OF ITS NON-PROLIFERATION
STRATEGY WITH REFERENCE TO SOUTH AFRICA AND DISTRIBUTE
IT TO ALL AFRICAN GROUP MEMBERS. FISHER WAS ALSO
VERY MINDFUL OF THE DANGERS OF US OVER-CONCENTRATING
ON NIGERIANS. END COMMENT.)

5. FIVE FURTHER AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF
US EXPERT COULD BRIEF THE FIVE AND PROVIDE THEM
WITH WRITTEN TALKING POINTS BEFORE HE ENTERED INTO
DISCUSSIONS WITH AFRICANS. THE UK, IN SUMMING UP
THIS SECTION OF DISCUSSION, SAID THAT THE CENTRAL
POLITICAL PROBLEM WAS IN CONVINCING AFRICANS

OF THE VALIDITY OF WESTERN NON-PROLIFERATION GOALS
AND STRATEGY. CERTAINLY IT WAS WORTH THE EFFORT TO
TRY TO EXPLAIN WESTERN CASE BUT THE UK WAS NOT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 01427 02 OF 02 140323Z

HOPEFUL THAT SUCH EXPLANATIONS WOULD TURN OFF A
COUNCIL MEETING FOR LONG. THE FIVE AGREED THAT IT
WAS VERY LIKELY THAT AFRICANS WOULD INSIST ON A
SC MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT BUT THAT UPCOMING NAMIBIAN
ACTIVITY AT THE UN MADE IT LIKELY THAT COUNCIL
SESSIONS ON NUCLEAR QUESTION WOULD NOT TAKE PLACE
UNTIL MAY. FIVE BRIEFLY AND INCONCLUSIVELY CONSIDERED
INFORMAL SUGGESTION MADE EARLIER BY NIGERIAN MISSION
TO US MISOFF THAT COUNCIL SESSIONS ON THIS MATTER
COULD BE HELD SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY'S SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT.

6. IN CONCLUDING MEETING MCHENRY ASKED GROUP TO
CONSIDER DRAFT US ELEMENTS IN CAPITALS WITH THE IDEA
OF STRUCTURING THEM INTO A DRAFT RESOLUTION. THE
FIVE SHOULD DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WANTED
CHAPTER SIX LANGUAGE OR CHAPTER SEVEN
LANGUAGE -- OR PERHAPS CHAPTER SIX LANGUAGE CONTAINING
A THREAT OF CHAPTER SEVEN. THE FIVE ALSO HAD TO
CONSIDER THE PROBLEM OF "HYPOCRISY" RAISED BY
SINGLING OUT SOUTH AFRICANS. IN SUM FIVE NEEDED TO
THINK HARD ABOUT COMING UP WITH A HELPFUL
RESOLUTION. LEONARD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, MEETINGS, UNSC RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978USUNN01427
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780160-0198
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780453/aaaabtfi.tel
Line Count: 202
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 618d01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 92273
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2959067
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WESTERN FIVE MEET APRIL 13 ON POSSIBLE UNSC ACTION ON SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR ACTIVITY
TAGS: MNUC, PORG, SF, US, UK, GE, FR, CA, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/618d01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014